

Method of Test For  
**ASPHALT VOLUMETRIC CALCULATIONS**  
 DOTD DESIGNATION: TR 3xx-14

### Scope

1. This method of test is intended to be a guideline for hot mix asphalt volumetric calculations and other calculations used in hot mix asphalt design and production.
2. Reference Documents
  - A. AASHTO T 84 – Specific Gravity and Absorption of Fine Aggregate
  - B. AASHTO T 85 – Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate
  - C. DOTD TR 304 – Determination of Specific Gravity and Density Characteristics of Compressed Asphaltic Mixtures
  - D. DOTD TR 306 – Determination of Percentage of Crushed Particles for Coarse Aggregates
  - E. DOTD TR 309 – Mechanical Analysis of Extracted Aggregate
  - F. DOTD TR 327 – Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity of Asphaltic Concrete Mixtures

### Calculations

1. Specific Gravity of Aggregate and Mineral Filler for Asphaltic Mixtures
  - A. Coarse Aggregate (AASHTO T 85)

#### Bulk Specific Gravity, Aggregate

$$\text{Bulk Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(B - C)}$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

B = mass of saturated-surface-dry test sample in air, g

C = mass of saturated test sample in water, g

Note: To nearest 0.001

#### Apparent Specific Gravity, Aggregate

$$\text{Apparent Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(A - C)}$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

C = mass of saturated test sample in water, g

Note: To nearest 0.001

#### Average Specific Gravity Values

$$G = \frac{1}{\frac{P_1}{100 * G_1} + \frac{P_2}{100 * G_2} + \dots + \frac{P_n}{100 * G_n}}$$

where

G = average specific gravity

P<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>n</sub> = mass percentages of each size fraction present in the original sample

G<sub>1</sub>, G<sub>2</sub>, G<sub>n</sub> = appropriate specific gravity values for each size fraction

Note: To nearest 0.001

#### Water Absorption, Aggregate

$$\text{Absorption}(\%) = \left[ \frac{B - A}{(A)} \right] * 100$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

B = mass of saturated-surface-dry test sample in air, g

Note: To nearest 0.1%

- B. Fine Aggregate (AASHTO T 84)

**Bulk Specific Gravity, Aggregate**

$$\text{Bulk Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(B + S - C)}$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

B = mass of pycnometer filled with water, g

S = mass of saturated surface-dry specimen,  
g

C = mass of pycnometer with specimen and  
water to calibration mark, g

Note: To nearest 0.001

**Apparent Specific Gravity, Aggregate**

$$\text{App Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(B + A - C)}$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

B = mass of pycnometer filled with water, g

C = mass of pycnometer with specimen and  
water to calibration mark, g

Note: To nearest 0.001

**Water Absorption, Aggregate**

$$\text{Absorption}(\%) = \left[ \frac{S - A}{(A)} \right] * 100$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry test sample in air, g

S = mass of saturated surface-dry specimen,  
g

Note: To nearest 0.1%

- Percentage of Crushed Particles for Coarse Aggregates (DOTD TR 306)

**Percent Crushed**

$$\%Crushed = \left[ \frac{\text{Crushed Agg}}{\text{Total Coarse}} \right] * 100$$

where

%Crushed = % of crushed aggregate single  
or double face in test sample

Crushed Agg = mass of crushed aggregate, g

Total Coarse = mass of plus 4.75 mm (No.4)  
aggregate

Note: To nearest 1%

**Percent Double Faced Crushed**

$$\%DFCrush = \left[ \frac{\text{DFCrush Agg}}{\text{Total Coarse}} \right] * 100$$

where

%DFCrush = % of crushed aggregate double  
face in test sample

DFCrush Agg = mass of double face  
crushed aggregate

Total Coarse = mass of plus 4.75mm (No.4)  
aggregate

Note: To nearest 1%

- Asphalt Absorption Factor and Effective Asphalt Content

**Asphalt Absorption**

$$AC_a = 100 * \left( \frac{G_e - G_b}{G_e * G_e} \right) * G_a$$

where

AC<sub>a</sub> = absorbed asphalt, % by weight of  
aggregate

G<sub>a</sub> = specific gravity of asphalt

G<sub>b</sub> = bulk specific gravity of aggregate

G<sub>e</sub> = effective specific gravity of aggregate

Note: To nearest 0.1%

**Effective Asphalt Content**

$$AC_e = AC_m - \left( \frac{AC_a}{100} * AGG \right)$$

where

$AC_e$  = effective asphalt content, % by total weight of mixture

$AC_m$  = asphalt content, % by total weight of mixture, taken from JMF

$AC_a$  = absorbed asphalt, % by weight of aggregate

$AGG$  = aggregate, % by total weight of mixture, taken from JMF

Note: To nearest 0.1%

4. Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity of Asphalt Concrete Mixtures (DOTD TR 327)

**Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity,  $G_{mm}$** 

$$G_{mm} = \frac{A}{(A + D - E)}$$

where

A = mass of oven-dry sample in air, g

D = mass of container filled with water at 25°C (77°F), g

E = mass of container filled with sample and water at 25°C (77°F), g

Note: To nearest 0.001

**Average Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity**

$$G_{mm} = \frac{G_{mm a} + G_{mm b}}{2}$$

where

$G_{mm a}$  = Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity of sample “a”

$G_{mm b}$  = Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity of sample “b”

Note: To nearest 0.001

## 5. Specific Gravity and Density

Characteristics of Compressed Asphalt Mixtures (DOTD TR 304)

**Bulk Specific Gravity,  $G_{mb}$** 

$$D = \frac{A}{(B - C)}$$

where

A = mass of specimen in air, g

B = mass of saturated-surface-dry specimen in air, g

C = mass of specimen in water, g

Note: To nearest 0.001

**Water Absorption, Asphalt**

$$\% \text{Water Absorbed} = \left[ \frac{B - A}{B - C} \right] * 100$$

where

% Water Absorbed = percentage of water absorbed by volume

A = mass of specimen in air, g

B = mass of saturated-surface-dry specimen in air, g

C = mass of specimen in water, g

Note: To nearest 0.1%

Note: If the percent of water absorbed by the specimen exceeds 2.0 percent use ???

**Percentage of Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity, % $G_{mm}$** 

$$G = \frac{D}{F} * 100$$

where

D = bulk specific gravity of sample,  $G_{mb}$

F = average theoretical maximum specific gravity,  $G_{mm}$

Note: To nearest 0.1%

Note: Also referred to as Percent Pavement Density

**Percentage of Air Voids,  $V_a$** 

$$H = 100 - G$$

where

$G$  = percent theoretical maximum gravity,  
% $G_{mm}$

Note: To nearest 0.1%

**Percent Voids in Mineral Aggregate, %VMA**

$$J = 100 - \frac{(D * P_a)}{G_{sb}}$$

where

$D$  = bulk specific gravity of sample,  $G_{mb}$

$P_a$  = aggregate content, percent by total weight of mixture from JMF

$G_{sb}$  = bulk specific gravity of the total aggregate from JMF

Note: To nearest 0.1%

**Percent Voids Filled with Asphalt, %VFA**

$$K = \frac{(J - H)}{J} * 100$$

where

$H$  = Percent voids,  $V_a$

$J$  = Percent voids in mineral aggregate,  
%VMA

Note: To nearest 1%

**Average Percent Density of Roadway Cores, Avg PD**

$$Avg PD = \frac{\sum PD_n}{N}$$

where

$PD_n$  = Percent pavement density of each core for the lot

$N$  = Number of cores for the lot

Note: To nearest 0.1%

**6. Moisture Content of Asphaltic Concrete (Loose Mix)****Moisture Content**

$$Moisture Content (\%) = \left[ \frac{M_i - M_f}{M_i} \right] * 100$$

where

$M_i$  = mass of initial, moist test sample, g

$M_f$  = mass of final, dry test sample, g

Note: To nearest 0.1%

**7. Asphalt Content of Asphaltic Mixture by Ignition Method****Asphalt Content**

$$AC (\%) = \left[ \frac{M_i - M_f}{M_i} * 100 \right] - C_F - MC$$

where

$AC$  = percent asphalt content

$M_i$  = total mass of HMA specimen prior to ignition, g

$M_f$  = total mass of aggregate remaining after ignition, g

$C_F$  = correction factor, percent by mass of HMA specimen

$MC$  = moisture content of the companion HMA specimen (if specimen was oven dried prior to initiating the procedure,  $MC = 0$ )

Note: To nearest 0.1%

8. Bitumen Content of Paving Mixtures by Centrifuge or Reflux Extractor (DOTD TR 307)

**Mass of Mineral Matter (Ash) in Total Volume of Extract**

$$W_4 = G * \left[ \frac{V_1}{(V_1 - V_2)} \right]$$

where

$W_4$  = mass of mineral matter in total volume of extract, g

$G$  = ash in aliquot, g

$V_1$  = total volume, mL

$V_2$  = volume after removing aliquot, mL

Note: To nearest 0.1g

**Bitumen Content**

$$BC (\%) = \left[ \frac{(W_1 - W_2) - (W_3 + W_4 + U)}{W_1 - W_2} \right] * 100$$

where

$BC$  = percent bitumen content

$W_1$  = mass of test portion, g

$W_2$  = mass of water in test portion, g

$W_3$  = mass of extracted mineral aggregate, g

$W_4$  = mass of the mineral matter in the extract, g

$U$  = increase in mass of filter, g

Note: To nearest 0.1%

9. Mechanical Analysis of Extracted Aggregate (DOTD TR 309)

**Percent Deviation of the Accumulated Total from Initial Dry Total Weight**

$$\%Difference = \frac{W - Z}{W} * 100$$

where

$W$  = initial dry total weight of sample

$Z$  = accumulated total weight

Note: To nearest 0.01%

**Percent of Material Retained on each Sieve**

$$PR_x = \frac{WR_x}{Z} * 100$$

where

$WR_x$  = weight of oven-dry aggregate passing one sieve and retained on the next smaller size sieve

$Z$  = accumulated total weight

Note: To nearest 0.01%

**Percent of Coarser Than Each Sieve**

$$PC_x = PR_1 + PR_2 + \dots + PR_x$$

where

$PR_1, PR_2, PR_x$  = percent retained in each particular sieve

Note: To nearest 0.01%

**Percent of Passing Each Sieve**

$$PP_x = 100 - PC_x$$

where

$PC_x$  = percent coarser than each particular sieve

Note: To nearest 0.01%